

# Things to do while staying @ the Albyn

We have created information on things to do while you are staying with us, have a look through it and you can ask us if you need any help to reserve anything, we will happily do it for you.

Edinburgh is a tourist dream, it is the only city in the world which has the biggest concentration of world heritage sites.

We always say to our guests that to fully appreciate Edinburgh, you must walk it and look, as it is all in front of you, but we always recommend one attraction and that is Mary Kings Close as it is the best way to understand why our city is the way it is and get a glimpse of the past.

Voila! Of course I will repeat all this and more when you come and we can chat about what you would find more interesting to see and we can guide you.....

First things first, to know everything about Edinburgh, there is a mobile/android app that you can download for free, have a look at it on your app store, it is part of Welcome to Scotland and is called the [Edinburgh App](#).

In Edinburgh, your visit is mostly about walking and soaking up the beauty of the architecture and the Old City, also it is definitely worth visiting the Mary King's Close, which is the city under the city, it is entertaining as well as historical, it is a real part of our heritage in Edinburgh, have a look and you can book direct on the site as they will ask for card details which I am not allowed to pass on (for data protection) [www.realmarykingsclose.com](http://www.realmarykingsclose.com) as well something to do I think is the double Decker city tour bus, which takes you around the city in 2 hours and then you can use the ticket as a hop on hop off to take around the city. At night, you can go and find a pub with live music, which makes a night very special or book a night at the comedy club [www.thestand.co.uk/Edinburgh.aspx](http://www.thestand.co.uk/Edinburgh.aspx). For a lot more about Edinburgh go to [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com) and have a look at all this beautiful city has to offer.

For day trips with a mini bus we work with a few companies, our favourite is Grayline, the tours are very good and they come and pick you up from the end of our street, have a look at the site [www.graylinescotland.com](http://www.graylinescotland.com) and let me know if you wish me to reserve anything for you; there are also a few more companies that we work with, they are all equally great; Highland Explorer Tours [www.highlandexplorertours.com](http://www.highlandexplorertours.com) , Heart Of Scotland tours [www.heartofscotlandtours.co.uk](http://www.heartofscotlandtours.co.uk) , Highland Experience Tours [www.highlandexperience.com](http://www.highlandexperience.com) and Rabbie's tours [www.rabbies.com](http://www.rabbies.com)

## The Hudson's family 30 favourite things to do in Edinburgh.

- Stay with us at the Albyn.
- Have Haggis and breakfast & finish it.....I dare you!
- Do a walking tour of the Medieval city.
- Visit the Mary King's close.
- Walk the Royal Mile and find the hidden courtyards & gardens through the old closes.
- Roll a hill in the Meadows Park.

- Walk along the water of Leith from Dean village to Stockbridge and go to the Stockbridge Market (sun 9am to 5pm).
- Go & meet Greyfriars Bobby & walk around the Kirkyard.
- Visit South Queensferry, my favourite village, walk around and have fresh fish and chips and cakes at the Rail Bridge Cafe at the foot of the Red Forth Rail Bridge; Take the bus x55 from Queensferry street, 30 min.
- Visit Edinburgh Castle and see the Crown Jewels.
- Take a city Tour Bus around Edinburgh.
- Have lunch in Victoria Street.
- Have an afternoon tea at the Howard in the New Town (Great King street.) or the Signet Library (Parliament Square).
- Visit Rosslyn Chapel, take bus 37 from Princes street.
- Get some cheese from Mellis in Victoria Street.
- Join a underground walking tour near the St Giles Cathedral.
- Walk up Carlton Hill, via Waterloo Place, and enjoy the view!
- Taste lots of Whiskies at the Bow Bar in Victoria street.
- Listen to folk music and experience the real Edinburgh people at the Sandy Bells on Forest road.
- Have a pulled pork sandwich at Oink in Victoria street....Yummmmmmm.
- Get some fresh Fudge from the Fudge House down in the Canongate.
- Take a Black cab (for the sake of it!).
- Walk around the New Town and soak up the beauty of the Architecture.
- Go to the National Museum of Scotland in Chamber street.
- Go to the Botanic Gardens, bus 23.
- Have a game of Golf on Bruntsfield link and get your Clubs and your pint at the Golf Tavern circa 1456!!
- Go and listen to live music in the Grassmarket, Thursdays to Saturdays.
- Walk along Portobello Beach (bus 15) and have an ice cream at the Beach House.
- Plan a 3 hour walk up to Arthur Seat, make it to The Sheeps Heid in Duddingston Village for lunch.
- Browse around the charity shops down in Morningside and if you want more (!) in Stockbridge.

If you have a car or wish to rent one, David has prepared a few ideas, three plans really, each is designed from here:

### 1) Glamis Castle and the Kingdom of Fife.

Drive to Glamis castle childhood home of the Queen Mother ([www.glamis-castle.co.uk](http://www.glamis-castle.co.uk)) then drive over the Tay bridge to St Andrews and then down the coast to Crail and then on to Anstruther ([www.anstrutherfishbar.co.uk](http://www.anstrutherfishbar.co.uk)) for the best fish and chips in the world! And then back to Edinburgh.

### 2) Blair Atholl and Pitlochry.

Drive to Blair castle ([www.blair-castle.co.uk](http://www.blair-castle.co.uk)) and then down to Pitlochry ([www.pitlochry.org](http://www.pitlochry.org)) lots to do Loch Faskally, Salmons Leap and Killiecrankie etc. and then back to Edinburgh.

### 3) The Scottish Borders.

Drive to the Border towns of Melrose and Galashiels to visit the towns and the old abbey maybe have a bite to eat in Melrose ([www.burtshotel.co.uk](http://www.burtshotel.co.uk)) if you have time you can drive to Kelso to visit

Floors caste ([www.roxburghe.net](http://www.roxburghe.net)) or visit Manderston to see the world's only solid silver staircase and intact servants quarters to show you how it all worked in Edwardian times ([www.manderston.co.uk](http://www.manderston.co.uk)) and then back to Edinburgh to relax.

Restaurants:

[www.threebirds.co.uk](http://www.threebirds.co.uk)

Great reviews from customers (and us too ;o), very nice food and bistro atmosphere, 2 minutes away.

[www.cafegrande.co.uk](http://www.cafegrande.co.uk)

Voted one of the best restaurant in Edinburgh without the price tag, bistro type place, just plain great food and relaxed atmosphere!

2 minutes walk from us, Sunday live Jazz nights.

[www.apartmentrestaurant.com](http://www.apartmentrestaurant.com)

7-13 Barclay Pl, Edinburgh, Midlothian EH10 4HW 0131 228 6456 5

minutes walk from us on the way to the centre, nice place, good food.

[henricksbar.com](http://henricksbar.com)

It is a pub type place but nice food relaxed and lovely décor, just 5 minutes or so walk on the way to the centre.

[www.thailemongrass.net](http://www.thailemongrass.net)

Thai food, lovely and good service, 5 minutes walk on the way to the centre, a tad pricey.

[www.mckirdyssteakhouse.co.uk](http://www.mckirdyssteakhouse.co.uk)

Really great steakhouse 15 minutes walk away or 5 minutes in a Taxi.

[www.papiliorestaurant.com](http://www.papiliorestaurant.com)

Nice friendly Italian, we take the kids there for a bowl of Gnocchi.

[www.osteriadelttempoerso.info/edinburgh/](http://www.osteriadelttempoerso.info/edinburgh/)

Traditional regional Italian restaurant with a sister restaurant in Lazio.

[www.montpeliersedinburgh.co.uk](http://www.montpeliersedinburgh.co.uk)

A vibrant and wonderful local pub with local guest beers and good food.

In the Old Town

<http://www.vittoriagroup.co.uk/vittoriabridge/>

Vittoria on the bridge is very good, it is an Italian restaurant and the food is good <http://www.list.co.uk/place/102855-vittoria/> for telephone website and reviews.

The Mitre is one of my favourite pubs on the Royal Mile, the look is quite traditional

<http://www.nicholsonspubs.co.uk/themitrebarroyalmileedinburgh/>

[www.dubhpraisrestaurant.com](http://www.dubhpraisrestaurant.com)

Dhu Prais traditional Scottish restaurant on the Royal Mile.

[www.maisonbleuerestaurant.com](http://www.maisonbleuerestaurant.com)

A French Mediterranean restaurant in Victoria street, just 5 minutes from the Royal Mile, 36/38 Victoria St, Edinburgh EH1 2JW 0131 226 1900

Extra special restaurants:

[www.ondinerestaurant.co.uk](http://www.ondinerestaurant.co.uk)

Ondine, fish restaurant, 2 George the 4th Bridge, 01312261888

[www.grainstore-restaurant.co.uk](http://www.grainstore-restaurant.co.uk)

Grain store, Scottish traditional restaurant, 30 Victoria Street, 01312257635

[www.thewitchery.com](http://www.thewitchery.com)

The Royal Mile Edinburgh EH1 2NF, 0131 225 5613

Voila! I hope this helps.

Take care and see you soon!!

Lydie